

# RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Quarterly*

VOLUME VIII No. 2

SPRING 1978



ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 19, 1978

**RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
101 CENTER STREET, RUTLAND, VERMONT**

The Society publishes the *Quarterly* for its members with the aim of preserving and studying the history of the Rutland community, which comprises the towns of West Rutland, Rutland, Proctor and the City of Rutland. The Society maintains and operates a museum at 101 Center Street, Rutland in the former Bank of Rutland building (built in 1825), now owned by the City of Rutland and leased to the Society at no charge.

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*Editor:* F. P. Elwert and Norman Cohen.

***Membership***

Membership in the Society is open to all upon payment of dues to the Assistant Treasurer—

John Diodati, 16 Cottage Street, Rutland, Vermont 05701.

Dues are \$2.00 per year for regular members; for those wishing to give the Society further support, a contributing membership is \$10.00; a life membership (one payment only) is \$75.00; and a sustaining membership is \$100.00.

**EDITOR**

The editor of the *Quarterly* for the past twenty-one issues is stepping aside. During those five years he has learned much of Rutland's history and finds that there is much more to learn. The time between issues seems to be shorter and the words and ideas come harder. It is time to bow out and leave the responsibility to others. Looking back on some of the themes of the *Quarterly* the issue devoted to Julia Dorr gave the most satisfaction, perhaps because others contributed so much to that special issue. The architectural issue of the fall of 1976 probably was the most difficult to produce. None would have been possible without the appreciated cooperation of Ed and Bob Sharp, the printers. Thanks should go also to George Covalt, Jim Cullin, Jon Mayo, Lloyd Marsh and Norman Cohen for editorial chores.

F. P. Elwert

**PICTORIAL HISTORY**

Bob West, editor of Rutland in Retrospect, the Society's pictorial history, reports that the book is in the final proof stages and nearing completion. The book will contain 176 pages of pictures, maps and other visual material covering the history of the area contained in the original Town of Rutland. There will be a brief text running through the book and extensively-researched captions under each picture. Many individuals and organizations have graciously loaned an extensive amount of material for an extended period of time for the book committee's use. During recent months the staff of Sharp Offset Printing have been taking painstaking care to produce a high quality book. A few of the many features of the book are paintings of Rutland's first-named proprietor and his wife, sections on the development of the marble industry in Proctor, West Rutland and Center Rutland, the development of the railroads, and pictures of all 11 covered bridges which once existed in the original Town, none of which remain today.



*County Courthouse Bell*

## BELLS AND BELFRIES

It was the hope of the editors last fall that a complete survey of all of Rutland's bells could be carried out and printed in this issue. The job proved more time-consuming and frustrating than was thought; hence there appears here but a brief introduction to the subject.

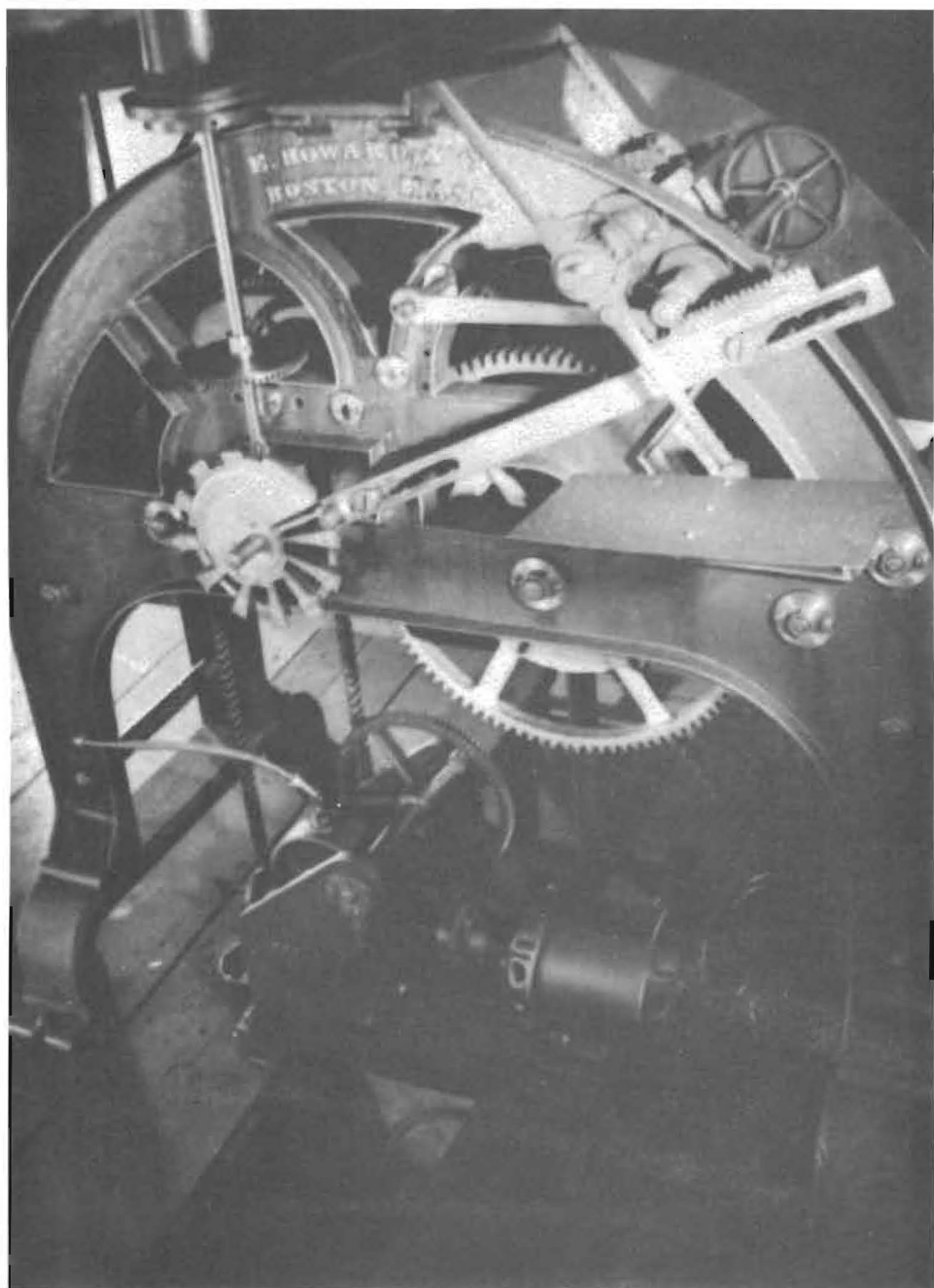
No real difficulty was encountered in gaining admission to the belfries, though the problems were several. Finding the janitor or sexton was not in all cases easy, and the cramped quarters in all belfries impose limits on what could be photographed even using a camera equipped with a wide-angle lens.

It was soon found that most bells in the three towers studied were long ago converted to electrical ringing, rather than the classic rope and bell wheel.

The oldest church building still standing, the former Catholic church on Forest Street, never had a bell tower, and quite likely never had a bell. The next oldest church in the area, the Grace Congregational Church on Court Street converted some time ago to a carillon operated from a small keyboard, the gift of Nella Grimm Fox.

The bell in the County Courthouse may still be rung manually, although the striking of the hours is done through a mechanism in the clock regulator (see cut). The three bells in Immaculate Heart of Mary were at one time capable of being rung manually but have since been mounted rigidly and struck electrically through movable clappers.

For years Troy, New York boasted at least one bell foundry and the vast majority of bells in use in the county are from one or the other of the Troy foundries.



*Clock and chime regulator made by E. Howard, Boston, Mass. in cupola of the Rutland County Courthouse. Notched gear in foreground determines the number of strikes to indicate the hour.*

—Photo by Barry Horowitz

**THE RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**  
**Treasurer's Report**  
**June 30, 1978**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

	<b>Year ending June 30</b>	
	<b>1978</b>	<b>1977</b>
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
<b>Taken in:</b>		
From Rutland City	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
Members' dues: Regular	510.00	720.00
Contributing	520.00	560.00
Sustaining	200.00	—
Gifts and sales	279.40	700.34
Grant from Vermont Historical Society		520.00
Pictorial History of Rutland	35.50	574.00
House Tours	265.00	360.00
Interest on bank balances	62.11	86.35
	<u>\$3,872.01</u>	<u>\$5,020.69</u>
<b>Spent:</b>		
Quarterly—printing and mailing	\$ 554.09	\$1,335.30
Stationery, other postage, etc.	236.03	397.74
Meetings	89.44	82.00
Exhibits and Library	420.10	631.91
Building operation	797.14	859.98
Activities announcements in Rutland Herald	135.91	154.97
Insurance	297.00	500.00
Storage	350.00	352.92
Curator's assistance	286.63	330.83
"Rutland 1912" movie		1,094.00
Pictorial History of Rutland		35.50
House Tour expenses	69.37	30.29
Other	105.00	65.00
	<u>\$3,340.71</u>	<u>\$5,870.44</u>
Not spent	\$ 531.30	
Overspent		\$ 849.75
Cash balances: Beginning of period	422.43	1,272.18
End of period	<u>\$ 953.73</u>	<u>\$ 422.43</u>
Items unpaid at end of period	\$ 400.00	\$ 135.00
<b>LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND</b>		
Taken in	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
Cash balances: Beginning of period	600.00	300.00
End of period	<u>\$ 900.00</u>	<u>\$ 600.00</u>
Interest on this fund is taken into the General Fund		
<b>BUILDING FUND</b>		
Contributions received	\$ 45.00	\$ 395.00
Interest on bank balance	24.68	17.13
Cash balances: Beginning of period	412.13	—
End of period	<u>\$ 481.81</u>	<u>\$ 412.13</u>
<b>PICTORIAL HISTORY FUND</b>		
<b>Taken in:</b>		
Pre-publication sales, ending June 15, 1977		\$4,948.50
Deposits after June 15, 1977	\$ 49.50	
Grant from Bicentennial Commission	1,000.00	
Interest on bank balance	227.54	55.86
	<u>\$1,277.04</u>	<u>\$5,004.36</u>

**Spent:**

Preparation	\$1,197.95	\$ 488.45
Transferred to General Fund to pay for "Rutland 1912" movie		574.00
	<hr/> \$1,197.95	<hr/> \$1,062.45
Not spent	\$ 79.09	\$3,941.91
Cash balances: Beginning of period	3,941.91	—
	<hr/> \$4,021.00	<hr/> \$3,941.91
End of period		

GEORGE J. COVALT,  
*Treasurer*

**MEMBERSHIP AT JUNE 30**

	1978	1977
Life members	12	8
Dues paid to September 30 following		
Regular	168	322
Contributing	56	40
Sustaining	2	—
Dues paid beyond September 30 following		
Regular	39	8
Contributing	2	9
	<hr/> 279	<hr/> 387
Total in good standing	279	387
Dues paid to the previous September 30	145	59
	<hr/> 424	<hr/> 446

**Sustaining Members**

Mrs. Patricia Wiman Hewitt, Rock Island, Illinois  
Todd Transportation Company, Rutland, Vermont

**Life Members**

Carolyn Lee Allen, Rutland, Vermont  
Vera V. Egelston, Rutland, Vermont  
Hon. Gilbert G. Godnick, Rutland, Vermont  
Mrs. Gilbert B. Howland, Rutland, Vermont  
Mrs. Gladys S. Kenney, Springfield, Massachusetts  
Mrs. Dorothy A. S. Kirk, Rutland, Vermont  
Kenneth A. Laplant, Pittsford, Vermont  
Sanborn Partridge, Proctor, Vermont  
Richard Ryan, Rutland, Vermont  
Mrs. Anne Felton Spencer, Cuttingsville, Vermont  
Carleton Wilson, Rutland, Vermont  
Mrs. Christine B. Wright, Rutland, Vermont

**Contributing Members**

Mrs. J. Edward Baker	Mrs. Nancy Fisher	Donald Ross
Mrs. Judith W. Bloomer	Mrs. Julia B. Granger	Mrs. Harriet M. Ross
Robert A. Bloomer	Mrs. Ruth C. Hale	Mrs. Jean C. Ross
Mrs. Albina C. Boni	Dr. William M. Hang	Mrs. Ethel P. Sevigny
Mary Louise Burditt	Raymond A. Hughes	Victor A. Sevigny
Alan Burr	Arthur J. Kavanagh	E. Farley Sharp
Mrs. Dorothy B. Covalt	Mrs. Marion S. Loveland	Dr. Gordon B. Smith
George J. Covalt	Rev. John A. Lynch	Robert G. Steele
David E. Crossman	J. Robert Maguire	Henry Z. Steinway
Rev. and Mrs. David J. Dean	The Marble Savings Bank	Archibald J. Todd
Deere & Company	Hugo W. Melen	Mrs. Beryl Todd
John F. Diodati	Mrs. Dora J. Metzger	Mrs. Paul W. Toth
James B. Dorr	Robert F. Moore	Morris G. Tucker
Mrs. Helen R. Dutton	Harold J. Nichols	Mrs. Morris G. Tucker
Mrs. Martha Dwyer	J. F. O'Shea	Carl B. Wener
Col. Barbara E. Earle	Dr. Emelie M. Perkins	Mrs. Elizabeth K. Wild
Thomas K. Egan	Robert Perkins	Leonard F. Wing, Jr.
Mrs. Amelia Forbes Emerson	Edward S. Pike	R. N. Wisell Heating &
Mrs. Ernest L. Erickson	Ellery R. Purdy	Plumbing, Inc.
Kenneth S. Fisher	Dr. John E. Rogers	

**WENDELL E. TAYLOR**  
**Certified Public Accountant**

To the Board of Directors  
The Rutland Historical Society, Inc.  
Rutland, Vermont

I have examined the Treasurer's Report of The Rutland Historical Society, Inc. for the period July 1, 1977 to June 30, 1978. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such auditing procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, the accompanying Treasurer's Report presents fairly the results of the Society's operations for the period July 1, 1977 to June 30, 1978 in conformity with generally accepted principles applied on a basis consistent with the preceding year.

WENDELL E. TAYLOR  
*Certified Public Accountant*

Rutland, Vermont  
July 21, 1978

**THE RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**  
**Proposed Amendments to By Laws**

When text is given, language in brackets [...] is to be deleted, matter underlined is new.

- 1 Article I Section 1 to be completely rewritten, to make clear that groups as well as individuals may join:

Section 1. Any person or group interested in the history of the original town of Rutland (comprising [including] the present Rutland city, [of] Rutland town, [and the townships of] Proctor town, [Rutland town,] and West Rutland town) who applies for membership in any classification of membership and who tenders the necessary dues or fee shall thereby become a member.

- 2 Article I Sections 2, 3 and 4 are completely recast, in the interest of clarity. The changes are (1) dues of regular members raised from \$2 to \$5; (2) Institutional membership eliminated (there have never been any) and replaced by business membership with \$25 dues; and (3) the policy adopted for members joining between July 1 and September 30 is set forth in the by laws. The proposed new sections are:

Section 2. Annual dues shall be for years beginning October 1 and ending September 30, and are payable in advance.

Section 3. Membership shall be of five classes with annual dues as follows:

Class	Annual dues
Regular	\$ 5
Contributing	10
Business	25
Sustaining	100
Life	none

A new member joining between July 1 and September 30, inclusive, of any year, shall pay one year's dues for the period from the date of joining to September 30 of the following year.

Section 4. Life membership shall be granted upon payment of a fee of \$75.

- 3 Article II Section 1 to be amended as follows:

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in October at a day to be chosen by the Board of Directors with notice to the members of the Society given at least three weeks in advance of said date.

- 4 Article II Section 2 Paragraph 3 to be amended to provide that a special meeting of the Board of Directors may be called by either the President or the Chairman. A new Paragraph 5 to be added to pick up the sentence, now in Article III Section 2 Paragraph 5, that "At any meeting of the Board of Directors a simple majority shall constitute a quorum."
- 5 The following sentence to be added to Article III Section 2 Paragraph 4 (duties of the Treasurer): The Treasurer, with the approval of The Board of Directors, may appoint one or more Assistant Treasurers who shall have such duties and authority as the Board of Directors may approve.
- 6 Article VII to be recast.

This article now reads:

Article VII Amendment to the By Laws. These By Laws may be amended at any regular or adjourned meeting by a two-thirds vote of those voting, provided notice was given at the previous meeting. Or they may be amended at a special meeting called for that purpose, with previous notice and a two-thirds vote. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing.

There are two proposals; FIRST:

Article VII Amendment to the By Laws. These By Laws may be amended by vote of seven or more members of The Board of Directors at two successive meetings.

SECOND proposal:

Article VII Amendment to the By Laws. These By Laws may be amended by two thirds vote of the members at a membership meeting provided a quorum is present and notice of the proposed amendment was mailed to the members at least three weeks before the meeting.

**ANNUAL MEETING  
RUTLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OCTOBER 19, 1978  
RUTLAND FREE LIBRARY  
Nella Grimm Fox Room  
7:30 P.M.**

**RUTLAND  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
101 Center St.  
Rutland, Vt.  
05701**

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Rutland, Vermont  
Permit No. 12**

*The number or letter on the address label indicates your dues status:*

*77 one year in arrears  
78 current  
L life membership*